



MONTGOMERY COUNTY ETHICS COMMISSION

Public Meeting of November 19, 2013

Minutes

IN ATTENDANCE:

Commissioners:

Stuart Rick, Chair
Kenita Barrow
Rachel Brown
Mark L. Greenblatt
Nina Weisbroth

Staff Member:

Erin Chu, Program Manager I

Item 1. The meeting was called to order at 7:16 p.m.

Item 2. The minutes from the 10/15/13 meeting were approved with one minor edit.

Item 3. Erin Chu apprised the Commission of the status of the Ethics Education project. The Commission encouraged Commission staff to move forward.

Item 4. The Commission reviewed the latest communications between Staff and the State Ethics Commission. The Commissioners were pleased with the reception of the twelve principles sent to the State Ethics Commission in May 2013. The Commission agreed with the proposed form sent by Jennifer Allgair, General Counsel to the Maryland State Ethics Commission. The Commission determined that it should take the lead in the legislative drafting of changes to the financial disclosure portion of the Public Ethics Law. The Commission unanimously approved a motion to send the County Council a legislative package of suggested changes to the portions of the Public Ethics Law that require modification per State Ethics Commission mandates. The package should closely follow the principles created by the Commission in May 2013.

Item 5. The Commission discussed the direction in which the proposed Administrative Directive on Acceptance of Gifts by the County is moving. They noted with approval the issuance of a memo from the Chief Administrative Office pertaining to this matter.

Item 6. Chu provided an update to the Commission regarding the state of lobbying registration and the anticipated roll-out of the 2014 Lobbying Registration notification in early December 2013.

Item 7. Chu apprised the Commission of the status of the launch of the 2013 Annual Financial Disclosure filing season. She also discussed the Chief Administrative Officer's memorandum issued in October 2013 which creates a legally sound path for adding positions to the list of designated filers throughout the year.

Item 8. Chu asked for and received final approval from the Commission to advertise the vacancy for Program Specialist II. She also advised the Commission that interviews are being scheduled for early December 2013 to replace two Commissioners whose terms have expired.

The meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Erin E. Chu
Program Manager I